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08/09/99

Ms. Jane Henney, Commissioner  
Food and Drug Administration  
Wash., DC

Dear Ms. Henney:

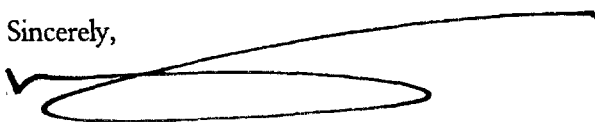
Please ban human antibiotics in livestock feed especially if that antibiotic is used in human medicine.

The use of antibiotics useful for humans should be banned from use in livestock feed. For more than forty years, antibiotics used to treat human disease have been routinely fed to poultry, cattle, and pigs to speed their growth or counteract the effects of crowded living conditions and poor hygiene. Roughly 40% of the 50 million pounds of antibiotics produced every year in the U.S. is used in livestock feed.

Mounting evidence shows that the routine use of human antibiotics in livestock feed may diminish the drug's ability to cure infections in people. The FDA has the legal authority and the responsibility to ensure that the use of antibiotics in livestock feed does not endanger human health. Yet the FDA has spent over twenty years deciding whether, or how, they will regulate the use of penicillin, tetracycline, and other commonly-used antibiotics. The World Health Organization called for a ban of such use in 1997 with the Centers for Disease Control and American Public Health Association quickly following suit. Sweden, Denmark, and the European Union have already enacted similar bans.

Thank you.

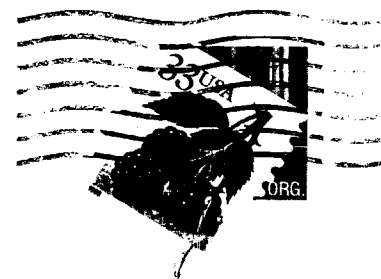
Sincerely,



Mark M Giese

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EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT



MS. J HENNEY  
COMM'R  
FDA

5600 FISHERS LANE  
ROCKVILLE MD 20857

